

REMARKS

Claims 2-13 and 15-19 are pending. Claim 1 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Applicants thank the Examiner for withdrawing the previous rejection under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph and for indicating the presence of allowable subject matter in each of claims 16-19. In response, these claims have been amended in independent form including all of the features recited by the rejected claims from which they depend.

Claims 1-5, 7-11 and 13 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Bruckner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,003,450). However, in light of the amendments to the claims, reconsideration is respectfully requested. Specifically, each of claims 2-5, 7-11 and 13 (claim 1 having been cancelled) has been amended to directly or indirectly depend from one of allowable claims 16-19. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit claims 2-5, 7-11 and 13 should also be allowable.

Claims 1, 3, 6-8, 11, 12 and 15 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Crowther et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,194,452). However, in light of the amendments to the claims, reconsideration is respectfully requested. Specifically, each of claims 3, 6-8, 11, 12 and 15 (claim 1 having been cancelled), has been amended to directly or indirectly depend from one of allowable claims 16-19. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit claims 3, 6-8, 11, 12 and 15 should also be allowable.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all rejections in the Office Action are overcome. Thus, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4375.

Respectfully submitted,

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